

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA
MACON DIVISION

GREGORY GILLILAN,

Plaintiff

vs.

MS. SMITH,

Defendant

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NO. 5:11-CV-268 (MTT)

ORDER

Plaintiff **GREGORY GILLILAN**, presently an inmate at Rogers State Prison in Reidsville, Georgia, has filed a *pro se* civil rights complaint under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Parties instituting non-habeas civil actions are required to pay a filing fee of \$350.00, unless they qualify for *in forma pauperis* status. 28 U.S.C. §§ 1914(a), 1915. Because Plaintiff has failed to pay the required filing fee, the Court assumes that he wishes to proceed *in forma pauperis* in this action.

Plaintiff sues Rogers State Prison employee Ms. Smith alleging that she has interfered with Plaintiff's access to the courts. Plaintiff's allegations include that Smith has denied Plaintiff indigent postage.

Under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g), the "three strikes rule" of the Prison Litigation Reform Act, a prisoner may not bring an *in forma pauperis* civil action or appeal:

if the prisoner has, on 3 or more prior occasions, while incarcerated or detained in any facility, brought an action or appeal in a court of the United States that was dismissed on the grounds that it is frivolous, malicious, or fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, unless the prisoner

is under imminent danger of serious physical injury.

28 U.S.C. § 1915(g).

A review of court records reveals that Plaintiff has filed more than 162 civil actions in the United States District Courts, and at least 11 of those complaints or resulting appeals have been dismissed as frivolous, malicious, or failing to state a claim.

See *Gillilan v. Davis*, 5:11-cv-208 (MTT) (M.D. Ga. May 31, 2011) (listing cases).

Plaintiff's allegations clearly do not satisfy the "imminent danger of serious physical injury" exception. Plaintiff's motion to proceed *in forma pauperis* is therefore **DENIED**.

Additionally, venue in this district is improper. The venue provision of 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) provides in relevant part:

A civil action wherein jurisdiction is not founded solely on diversity of citizenship may ... be brought only in (1) a judicial district where any defendant resides, if all defendants reside in the same state, [or] (2) a judicial district in which a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred....

28 U.S.C. § 1391(b).

The Defendant appears to be located, and all of the events alleged in the complaint occurred, in Tattnall County, which is situated in the Southern District of Georgia. 28 U.S.C. § 90(c)(6). As this Court has informed Plaintiff in prior orders, the proper venue for actions arising out of Rogers State Prison is the Southern District of Georgia, not this district.

Title 28 U.S.C. § 1406(a) provides that a district court may transfer a case to another court where it might have been properly filed. However, the court should transfer the case only if doing so is in the interest of justice. A transfer of this case would not be in the interests of justice because Plaintiff has more than three strikes and has failed to allege sufficient facts to indicate that he is in “imminent danger of serious physical injury.”

In light of the foregoing, the instant action is hereby **DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE.**

SO ORDERED, this 14th day of July, 2011.

S/ Marc T. Treadwell
MARC T. TREADWELL, JUDGE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

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